

Gorst, then President of the Board of Education, sent down to the Fabian Offices, and asked to be supplied with fifteen galley pulls of Webb's Tract No 106 for the instruction of the Cabinet So far as Gorst himself went, and so far as Mr Balfour, the Prime Minister went, their instruction had been carried through some time before this, at 41, Grosvenor Road

Permeation, at Grosvenor Road, had not only been applied to members and supporters of the Government

It had been going on, assiduously and effectively, over a wide range Balfour, at the time, was almost an intimate there and he and Haldane saw pretty much eye to eye with one another, and with Webb So hopeful were they, indeed, that the intention was to make the measure an agreed one, of this, lively hopes had been entertained at one time, by the friends of education Among the Liberals, not R B Haldane only, but H H Asquith, Edward Grey, and even Lord Rosebery were, at this stage, constant visitors at Grosvenor Road Lord Rosebery had been the first Chairman of the Council, and had a strong pride in his child of him, about the turn of the century, the Webbs had great expectations The notion of "educating an Imperial race" appealed, powerfully, to his lively imagination, as to those of his section of the Liberal party

Here however, as with the Progressives on the Council, and Liberals throughout the country in general, bitter disappointment awaited those who insisted on looking at

the education of the children from an
educational point of
view No sooner were the schools mentioned
than, in the
country as a whole, and in London in
particular, the tides
of sectarian prejudice surged up, menacing
The Liberals,
at this date, were still first and foremost a
Nonconformist
party The Nonconformist conscience had
brought Glad-
stone to heel, in the Parnell Case it now brought
Rosebery
and his friends to heel against the "gift of
public money